DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: The hon. Minister has not paid attention to this question. Even Taj was closed. We do not know why it was closed and for how many days and what its impact was on the foreign tourists. Even though tourists' year has begun, the foreign tourist groups are cancelling their tours and all the hotels are lying vacant. There is no security provided to the tourists. I want' to know how has the Government failed even to make Taj a place for tourists' visit.

श्री सभापति : ये कह रहे हैं कि टूरिस्टों के लिए अच्छा इंतजाम कर दीजिए आप सिक्योरिटी का।

श्रीमती ऊषा सिंह : माननीय सभापति महोदय, पिछले समय में आगरा में होटल के सामने कम्युनल रायट्स हुए जिसके कारण होटल को बंद करना पड़ा तीन-चार दिनों के लिए और आए दिन वहां पर लॉ एण्ड आर्डर प्राब्लम हो जाती है लेकिन मैं माननीय सदस्य की भावना की कद्र करते हुए इसका प्रबंध कराऊंगी कि वहां पर परी सिक्योरिटी रहे।

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: South is being neglected. What does the Government propose to do to utilise the total potential from the South, because South has a great potential for tourism?

श्री देवी लाल : जहां तक साउथ का ताल्लुक है, मैं आनरेबल मेंबर से दरख्वास्त करूंगा कि वे कोई खास प्रपोजल लाएं, हम उसे मंजूर करने को तैयार हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Import of Palmolein and Coconut oil

*124. SHRI N. E, BALARAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to. reduce the import of Palmolein and also to start the import of coconut oil;

(b) if so, what are the details of the total quantum of Palmolein imported during the year 1990; and

(c) the' details of the agreement made for the import of Palmolein and the agreement being made for the im port of coconut oil alongwith the names of the countries from which it is proposed to be imported alongwith its expected price?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The quantity of Palmolein imported is decided by Govt, from year to year. Palmolein constitutes the only Edible Oil imported during the calendar year 1990 and a total quantity of about 5. 64 lakh tonnes was imported. Import of any other Edible Oil at competitive prices is not ruled out.

(c) Purchases of Edible Oils are finalised by the canalising agency; —! the State Trading Corporation of India Limited, by inviting tenders from international suppliers. A quanity of 6, 000 tonnes of crude Coconut Oil has been accordingly purchased by STC at US dollar 344 per tonne C1F for shipment in January, 1991, of Philippines/Indonesian origin.

Coconut as an. oilseed

*125. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY-
SHRI R. GANESAN alias Misa R. GANESAN;

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have dec lared Coconut as an oilseed; if so. the reasons therefor;

(b) what steps have been initiated to help the Coconut growers;

(c) whether any subsidies have been announced; if so, when and the details thereof; and

(d) if the answer to parts (b) and (c) above are in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURK AND SOOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) Botanically speaking, coconut is considered as an oilseed but because of utilisatioa of its fibre in the coir industry it is required to be treated as a special category. However, in view of important contribution of coconut oil—it needs to form an integral part of edible oil strategy and, as such, it has been decided to treat copra/coconut as an oil seed.

(b) The Coconut Development Board is implementing various schemes with a financial outlay of Rs. 225 lakhs for the year 1990-91. The major projects being implemented by the Board dur ing 1990-91 are: —

(i) Production and distribution of TXD hybrid coconut seedlings;

(ii) Expansion of area under coconut granting planting subsidy;

(iii) Integrated farming in coconut small holdings in Kerala;

(iv) Providing assistance for irrigation facilities to coconut growers;

(v) Integrated control of major pests and diseases, etc.

(c) No new subsidies have been announced consequent to the declara tion of coconut as an oilseed of tree origin. However, under the following two schemes (continuing) subsidy is given: —

(i) Area Expansion Scheme;

(ii) Financial Assistance for irrigation facilities.

(d) No new subsidy has been announced in view of the position narrated in the answer t_0 part (c).

EEC Aid to NDDB

*127. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it i_s a fact that NDDB has recently got Rs. 90 crores as an economic aid from EEC; and

(b) if so, to what extent this aid has been utilised b_y the NDDB?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICUL TURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b) During the year 1990, NDDB has not received any commodity/cash assistance from EEC.

Slum dwellers in the Metropolitan Cities

*128. SHRI ATAL BIHARl VAJPAYEE: SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR.

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT b_e pleased t_0 state:

(a) the $numbe_r$ of slum dwellers in the metropolitan cities of the country. Statewise;

(b) what percentage of them have basic amenities like potable water, drainage, Primary schools, first-aid posts, street light, general sanitation etc.; and

(c) whether there i_s any scheme to provide these amenities to all the slum dwellers if so, th_e details thereof and by when?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN); (a) to c) Under the scheme of Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums implemented by, the State Governments a package of basic services like potable water, drainage, street lighting, community latrines, path ways etc. are provided. The estimated slum population of 12 cities with more than 10 lakh population, which ar_e usually regarded as metropolitan, the estimated slum population in the respective States and the expenditure during the 6th and the 7th Plans under EIUS are indicated in the attached Statement. Separate figures of coverage of slum population within metropolitan cities are not available. However, percentage of total slum population covered under the Scheme in the respective States is indicated.